**SPECIAL**
**GENERAL CONFERENCE XIII**
**ISSUE**

# THE DRUM

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Rev. La Paula Turner, Chaplain
District Coordinator, GLD

Rev. Renee McCoy
Director, National Coalition
of Black Lesbians and Gays

## WHAT DOES "THIRD WORLD" MEAN IN 1987?

*"Is your heart true to my heart as mine is to yours: ... If it is, give me your hand."*
*2 Kings 10:15*

"... its very important for members of a minority group to develop an inner security. For in that way we become fearless and very decent human beings." Bayard Rustin, Human Rights Philosopher and Activist.

"Who is healing the brokenness in the Black lesbian and gay communities and who should be given the call of the Gospel and the one ness of the body of Christ? Black gay men and lesbians face a dual experience of oppression. They encounter racism almost from birth, and homophobia from the moment they claim their sexualities. As they grow and move among the lesbian and gay communities seeking companionship and relationships, theyrisk encountering racism within those very communities to which they have fled. Where do they go for pastoral counseling, guidance in developing moral behavior and healthy relationships, for affirmation of relationships, for comfort when relationship fail? Where do they go for help in diffusing the anger and hurt of the racism within the gay and lesbian communities? Who heals the broken, painful wounds caused by familial rejection when their sexuality is discovered? Who will be involved in this healing and comforting based on the history of Black people and on the Gospel?" Rev. Renee McCoy, Mid Atlantic District, Director of NCBLG.

"We are in the process of working out what missiology is. Is the mission of the church -- membership or service? As we develop a theology of mission, it would include five things: God's revelation in other religions salvation of the human race; God in history; the church's apostleship, and structural issues of how all this will develop.

Where do we go from here? We are just getting started. This is going to affect the lives of every Christian within UFMCC. It is not only an issue for people of color, but for all, sooner or later. We are the people from whom it is best to begin. We've had the experience of learning to live within another culture, learning to deal with other cultures, not only the dominant culture, but also cultures amongst our own people." Wally Rice, "On Missiology"

"I feel that God is doing a wonderful work amongst us. We have a long way to go, but I know that we have the strength each day I walk on the street and see a Black sister or brother who is yearning to know/share with us. That keeps the work so vital and urgent. The whole area of our own stories as Christian people of color who are lesbian and gay, our own histories where we are, our own theology/liturgies/spirituality and vocabularies has to be claimed and worked and lived." Rev. Hong Tan, London, England

"I have learned that you are partly who you are because of your color. That is something you cannot change. Be real, be at peace with yourself, get involved and learn what it is truly like to be proud of your heritage and your future. We are a new people. let us all fight to be the people we are called to be, to fight the prejudice that stands in the way of us being as one people. The people of the world are a rainbow, one of God's most wonderful creations, not to be shunned or ridiculed, but to be nurtured, respected and loved. As Christ accepts you where you are, can you accept me where I am? Or better yet, can you accept yourself where you are?" Larry Young, Great Lakes District

"The wars of conquest are still being fought on reservations in urban communities, along Indian-white frontiers; in Mexico and in Central America -- Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua,... In some areas we have been all but extinquished. In others, we continue to survive in large numbers, though usually c h a r acterized as peasants and disguised as Hispanics by the Anglo/European/Hispanic media, scholars, officials, and political activists. Still, we endure, and many of our old values, lifeways, and philosophies endure with us, for they, like us, are inextricably linked to the land, the sky, the waters and the spirits of this "Turtle Island," this Earth-surface place, that the whites call 'the New World'." Paula Gunn Allen, Pueblo/Sioux Indian

# UFMCC PEOPLE OF COLOR LEADERSHIP

For your information, the Executive Committee of the Department of Third World Ministries presents profiles (listed alphabetically) of SOME of the people of color within UFMCC who have significant leadership roles. Space prohibits profiling all, however, mention is given throughout this issue of many others who journey with these leaders in ministry.

## REV. DELORES BERRY

Delores came into UFMCC in 1976 in Baltimore, Maryland. That same year, she co-founded the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays and worked on the March on Washington Committee. She has pastored MCC Norfolk, Virginia and MCC Portland, Oregon. Delores is the first Black American ordained in UFMCC and was formerly CME Methodist. She is an evangelist, a talented singer and healer. Her ministry has included work with mentally retarded people. Currently, she is the Chair of the Division of Missiology for the Department of Third World Ministries. She also serves on the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee. Delores was the first person of color to be elected District Coordinator. She served the Mid-Atlantic District for three years. Delores currently resides in Baltimore with her spouse Ms. Judy Kiser and her mother — Mama Berry.

## MR. RICK ESPINOZA

Rick was born in Trinidad, Colorado and is relatively new to UFMCC. Rick began attending MCC two years ago and since then has worked extensively in local congregations in the Great Lakes District. In 1985 he was elected Third World Representative and in November 1986 he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Department, in Los Angeles. Rick is a spirit-filled, committed hard worker for the Committee. He is also a deacon in his local congregation and has an active and effective prison ministry.

## REV. RENEE McCOY

Renee was born in Detroit, Michigan where she was raised Roman Catholic. She became a member of MCC Detroit in 1975. She attended Wayne State University where she majored in Sociology and Political Science. In 1979, Renee became the Director of the Race Relations Department which developed into the Department of Third World Ministries. Renee served as Director for eight years. In 1981, Renee founded MCC Harlem and pastored there until 1986. While pastoring in Harlem, she counseled and worked with women at a shelter in New York City. Renee has brought her challenging and prophetic ministry from Harlem to Washington, D. C., where she is now the Director of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays — an organization that she co-founded ten years ago. Renee is published in journals and magazines, most recently in the Spring issue of OPEN HANDS: JOURNAL OF THE RECONCILING CONGREGATION PROGRAM, formerly named, MANNA FOR THE JOURNEY a United Methodist Church publication. Her article is entitled, "Who will be there for us?" Renee has just recently made a very significant breakthrough for the Fellowship -- she is the first openly lesbian MCC Clergy to attend the 87th National Baptist Congress on Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia. Considering Black homophobia, this was a courageous and uniting action.

## MR. TED PATTERSON

Ted is the Treasurer of the Department of Third World Ministries and is an active lay person at All God's Children MCC in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ted has been on the Executive Committee since 1985. He is now in process of preparing a race relations work shop for the Minneapolis Council of Churches. This workshop should be ready for presentation this fall and can be used at other ecumenical organizations throughout the country. Ted resides near Minneapolis with his two children and his mother.

## REV. SANDRA ROBINSON

Sandi began her career with UFMCC in 1982 and answered the call to professional ministry in 1983 and was licensed in 1986. In 1984, she was appointed Co-director of the Department of Ecumenical Witness and Ministry by the Board of Elders. In 1985, Sandi wrote a grant proposal for $5,000.00 to help fund UFMCC's work with the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. One year later, she received a

PROFILES... Robinson continued:

second award of $4,000.00 to do local and regional ecumenical work which resulted in the formation of the Community Unity Health and Wholeness Conference and Project. This Project is now an ongoing ministry of MCC Dayton Parish in Ohio. Sandi has been a representative to Faith, Fellowship and Order; writer for JOURNEY magazine, Staff Clergy at MCC Dayton Parish, Ohio. Sandi has been the Coordinator of two district conferences in the Great Lakes District. She has been a staff writer for GOOD TIMES, a local gay/lesbian publication in Columbus, Ohio and organized the first dialogue on Homosexuality and Theology at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. Sandi received her B. A. Degree from Youngstown State University in 1973 and did some graduate work there before moving to Columbus. There she attended the Trinity Lutheral Seminary for a year before transfering to United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. Presently she is a Senior. She resides in Dayton with her spouse of 5 years, Rev. La Paula Turner.

## REV. VILMA TORRES

Vilma has been in UFMCC 12 years. She was born in San Turce, Puerto Rico in 1946 and began her Fellowship career co-pastoring MCC Hispana which formed from the first church that she founded, ICM Queens in New York City. She currently pastors the second church that she founded — ICM Christo Rey in Grenich Village, New York. Vilma has her Associates Degree from the College of New Rochelle and attended Baptist Bible College in New York. She serves on the Executive Board of the AIDS County of Queens Commission and is on the transportation committee for the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. She is the Faith Fellowship and Order representative for the Department. Vilma resides in Elmhurst, New York with her mother. She says that she's single and she is looking ...

## REV. LA PAULA TURNER

La Paula is the District Coordinator of the Great Lakes District and has served on the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee for three years. She has also served on the UFMCC By-Laws Committee, Government Structures and Systems and currently serves on the Internal Communications and Planning Division of the General Council. La Paula came into UFMCC in 1969 as a founding member of MCC Washington,D.C. Since then she was initially credentialed in 1981 and ordained in 1984. Her pastoral career included Worship Coordinator of MCC Baltimore and MCC Anchorage; Associate pastor of MCC Portland, Oregon; Senior Pastor of MCC Columbus and MCC Dayton Parish. She attended the Harris-Stowe College in St. Louis, St. Mary's Theological Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland and Alaska Pacific University in Anchorage, Alaska. She was a National Officer for the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

La Paula is an accomplished gaylesbian pride speaker, having spoken for many organizations and colleges in at least sixteen cities. She has appeared twice on the Sally Jessy Raphael Show and several radio programs. La Paula's gifts include teaching, preaching, pastoring and administration. She is a gifted singer, a healer and counselor. She is the mother of six and grandmother of nine children. Her difficult and challenging life has taught her compassion and has given her the gift of wisdom and discernment.

## REV. WILLIE WHITE

Willie has been the District Coordinator of the Northeast District since 1983. He came into the UFMCC in April 1977 as the founder of what is now St. John's MCC, a chartered church in Raleigh, North Carolina. He pastored this group for six years and then founded MCC Rochester, N.Y. in 1981. Willie was on the Inclusive Church Task Force in 1979 and currently serves on the Corporate and Legal Division of General Council. He attended Bailey University in Waco, Texas and Southeast Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina. Willie was Ordained in the Baptist Church before coming into UFMCC.

Willie instituted a comprehensive pastoral search process that filled 50% of the churches in the Northeast District that were vacant when he became D.C. He is now working on a comprehensive church growth program facilitated by Rev. Brent Hawkes, that will take two years to complete. Willie currently resides in Scarborough, New York with his spouse, Robert.

CELEBRATE LIFE

PROFILES ... continued

## MR. RAVI VERMA

Ravi was born in Bombay, India and came into the Fellowship ten years ago as of this General Conference XIII. Ravi completed his Masters work in Engineering at Leheigh University and his Master of Business Administration at the University of Pittsburg. He has been the Director of Administration for UFMCC since 1983. He is also an advisor to the Department of Third World Ministries.

It is Ravi's vision in part, that inspired the birth of the Division of MIssiology. Ravi brings much needed global consciousness into UFMCC and vast experience and wisdom to the Department. He has extraordinary organizing skills. Currently, Ravi resides in Los Angeles, California and works at UFMCC offices.

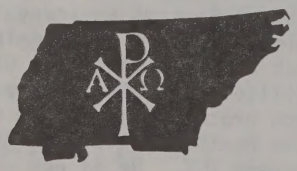
## TASK FORCE REPORTS

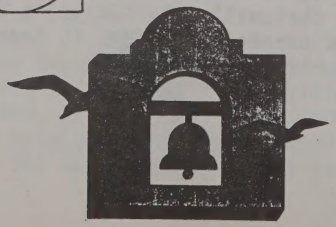
### GULF LOWER ATLANTIC DISTRICT

MISSISSIPPI, TENNESSEE,
NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA,
ALABAMA, GEORGIA

GLADistrict elected their first representative this year at their Conference. Ms. Vivian Gillam from MCC Mobile Alabama was elected representative, and Ms. Carolyn Mobley from MCC of the Blessed Redeemer was elected as alternate.

Vivian is unable to attend this General Conference, however she is with us in spirit. She has been in UFMCC two years and comes to the Department with a heightened sense of social Justice. She has a Master's Degree in Social Work and is very active in her local church which has a much higher than average number of people of color in attendance. She looks forward to hearing from us and is anxious to begin her work as Third World Representative.





### MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, PENNSYLVANIA,
WEST VIRGINIA, NEW JERSEY,
VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, DELAWARE

MADistrict task force met and elected Fred Hughes of MCC Philadelphia as their representative. There were ten people at their meeting.

### GREAT LAKES DISTRICT

ILLINOIS, INDIANA, MICHIGAN,
WISCONSIN, KENTUCKY, OHIO

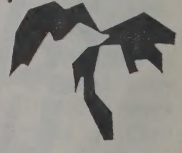
Report presented by Mr. Larry Young.

At the Fall District Conference, the task force had it's first caucus. I remember how little everyone knew. This had never been done before: all people of color from our district— sitting down and talking together. We talked about how different and how alike we are in our many backgrounds. Across the hall, Ron, my spouse and Earl House were holding the first workshop on White People Healing Racism. Later, at the caucus, I was elected representative along with Rick Espinoza (who was later elected to the Executive Committee).

At the Third World Conference, most of the people were like me, all wanting to better our selves and find out how we can let our brothers and sisters know the good news. At the opening, we met the dynamic Revs. Delores Berry and the founder of the Department Renee McCoy. We listened and shared our stories of finding MCC. One person I remember is Ravi Verma, who is the UFMCC's Director of Administration. If you have time, ask him about the meeting and to share with you, you will be blessed.

One thing we discussed is how wrong it would be to go to another country and impose our values on them. If we are to be the people we are called to be, we have to let them accept Christ where they are. We were blessed with the opening sermon delivered by Rev. La Paula Turner, chaplain for the Department. We learned from Rev. Carl Bean, the founder of the Minority AIDS Project that it takes all of us working together in order to make a difference and to eliminate racism, sexism, and classism and other problems that separate us from one another.

M.A.D.



EUROPEAN NORTH SEA DISTRICT

UNITED KINGDOM, GERMANY, SCANDINAVIA, HOLLAND, IRELAND

ETHNIC MINORITIES MINISTRY AND WHITE PEOPLE AGAINST PREJUDICE PRESENTS "SHARING TOGETHER" A DAY CONFERENCE JUNE 13, 1987

Report presented by Rev. Hong Tan

We had a difficult time getting space and time to meet at our Fall Conference, but it was at that time that I think we started to grow in our ministry. It was our first residential conference and eventually the white people against racism met in one of their people's bedrooms while after waiting in the corridor and starting our meeting there, the Black people met in a small room. Praise God we had the largest number of Black people attending any MCC Conference in our district ever! There were nine of us from MCC Birmingham, Liverpool and North London. We had a time of sharing our stories, of how we came, why we came and what sorts of pains we have experienced in our journeys. I had not realized til then that there were so many hurts that we had in common. At the end of the time, we felt really encouraged and strengthened. There was however a lot of consciousness raising to be done within our selves, but I felt it was a very good first meeting. However, I did not realize the turmoil that our meeting had caused on the white people!

First there were angry voices relayed to me that they couldn't see why we had to meet separately. They felt that we should learn from each other and not separately (albeit for one hour!). They also felt very threatened and frightened about the name — white people against racism — which they changed to white people against prejudice. There is such fear! The general feeling among them was that we Black people were doing something devious and secretive. However, the conclusion of this was some real healthy anger and people wanted to do more and learn more, hence the day conference.

During the Conference, we tried to deal with some of the fears by planning a sharing emphasis on the whole day. I tried to get as much experiential content to the day as possible with as little direct input and direction from the four reps as possible. We kept very much in the background. The focus was to try to get people to start s h a r i n g about prejudice, knowing that they all had different agendas and definitions of it, but also in the afternoon to play a role game in which a positive prejudiced situation was re-enacted by the people. Although everyone seemed to enjoy the roleplay, the same fears were still there — why did the Black people have to meet separately, etc. However, I think it was a good trustbuilding day and good because people made very big committments to it by driving down from half the country, which may be a good mental committment to the future. We also asked for money for a nookstall and bought some books, photocopies of human rights chartersets posters for each church to take home for their own use.

Savi Hensman and I hope to get together in August to have the first meeting of Black Lesbian and Gay People of Faith. We hope to have within that a Christian group. This group will hopefully take on the tasks of training our people in counseling, form an information line, and start to network with other people of color in the district so that a whole tree of support and work will be set up.

NORTHWEST DISTRICT

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN NEVADA, ALASKA, IDAHO, UTAH, OREGON, WASHINGTON, HAWAII

NORTHWEST DISTRICT CAUCUS, SEATTLE DISTRICT CONFERENCE, MAY 22-25, 1987

Report presented by Rev. John Torres

Twelve people attended the Caucus — one Black male, one Black female, two Hispanic males, one Jewish male, three white males and three white females. The meeting lasted two hours during which we: had introductions; reported on the Los Angeles Conference; did a workshop; received an update on the March Executive meeting and discussed preparation for General Conference. Most of our time was spent in the "Getting to Know You" segment. We divided into two large groups and went through the questions and then gathered again into one large group. Heartfelt emotions were expressed. I personally felt very good about the caucus. The persons who attended seemed genuinely concerned. They also opened up to one another easily and are involved with people of color in their own communities. During the conference, I noticed many Hispanic

people, some Asians but few of our Black sisters and brothers even though there is an abundance of Black involvement in the Seattle night life. This area is untapped with regard to people of color.

I proposed a resolution concerning a Task Force in the Northwest District that the district conference reaffirm it's commitment to the re-creation of a Third World Ministries Task Force. I spoke to the resolution admitting my own concerns that our district, which claims to be the best organized and inclusive, begin to LOOK as though it is! I also charged the Tay delegates and clergy to respond and react when information and a response is requested concerning people of color. I plan to contact everyone on our mailing list and ask for other names and addresses of interested persons, and then I will follow up with a survey to all churches in the district concerning their involvement. We would like to see a network form with the establishment of a northern and southern area of the district for workshops and socials. By district Conference in Spring '88, I hope to see a person of color established on the district committee. Our new District Coordinator is Rev. Ed Sherriff. He was raised on a Native American reservation and is very sensitive to minorities. I know we have his complete cooperation as well as Rev. Pelletier's through the remainder of his term as District Coordinator.

## SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN NEVADA, ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO,**

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT TASK FORCE
ON THIRD WORLD MINISTRIES
MINI CONFERENCE
MAY 15,16,17, 1987
Report presented by Mr. Wally Rice

The weekend mini-conference began Friday evening, as the Latin Church of Christian Fellowship opened its doors to us for an informal social. It was fun, relaxed evening in an atmosphere of friendship and hospitality. The day long gathering on Saturday took place at MCC Los Angeles. We began with registration and had an introduction to the expectations of the day, individual expectations, a brief history of the Department of Third World Ministries, and a review of the agenda. 35 people of color and white people attended. The first activity was a cross-cultural workshop which is an adaptation of the workshop presented at the November, '86 Conference in Los Angeles. We did separate workshop groups to accommodate different approaches for people of color and for white people with the objective of a common sharing time after lunch.

A UFMCC polity primer was presented in the early afternoon, outlining the basic structure of the Fellowship, complete with heads of Departments, committees, and basic system ofoperations. It was quite an eye opener and a great experience. After polity, people of color and white people again separated to tackle different objectives. The topics for people of color were "Getting Things Done" and our business meeting. For white people the topics were "Getting Things Done and Working for Justice." The two groups came together for a brief time of sharing and we ended our day with a simple Communion service.

The mini-conference ended on Sunday morning with a few hardy souls gathering for breakfast before morning service. There was a review of Saturday's events, and individual expressions of future expectations. Some new discoveries were made by some people. This mini-conference is the first Third World Ministries district-wide gathering to take place. It was designed to bring together people from throughout the district in an attempt to "de-localize" participation. We were somewhat successful in that objective. So we may share fully in the life of our District, the Southwest District Task Force will hold quarterly mini-conference throughout the district on a regular basis. Audrey Cupidon and Marie Pedrin-Gizoni were elected Co-Chairs of the Task Force, Steve Martinez was elected Treasurer and Wally Rice elected Recording Secretary. Audrey and Marie have been invited to do a Third World workshop at Orientation to MCC Pastoring.

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# COLORISM . . .
# HOW DO WE FEEL ABOUT EACH OTHER?

by REV. SANDRA ROBINSON

*"... we must cleave to reality, to what we know, we feel, we think of life, trusting our own experience and our own lives, embracing both the dark self and the light."*

*Alice Walker*

It would seem that with all of the negativity in the world that we would be a tight knit network of people who give and receive support. In fact, this is not always true. In our migrations from the communities that we were born in, we have become more and more enculturated (change of culture) away from our communities and more and more diverse from each other. Too often we are isolated, i.e. the only one in a white community, sometimes closed in a white suburb, l i v i n g openly in a predominately white gay ghetto of homes "restored" and upper middle-class prosperity in the middle of a racially mixed community.

Sometimes, the gaylesbian lifestyle is a ticket out of poverty and ignorance. Almost always, it is a ticket into a new kind of freedom with expensive price tags. We make little compromises usually to maintain our freedom to be, and those compromises mean being and acting a little less Black, or Hispanic or Asian. The price to pay is guilt, another is enduring subtle to overt racism. The pay-off is the priviledge of being the only one or one of a very few in a group. Asians Blacks, Hispanics, Inuits, Native Americans, Pacific Coast Islanders are sexually intriguing to many white people.

When we encounter each other within our racial groups, bizarre dynamics come into play. When Blacks meet Blacks, light-skinned and brown-skinned people tend to be wary and suspicious of dark-skinned people and vice-versa. Light skinned people sometimes are afraid that dark skinned people are casting instant judgement on them for not being Black enough. Sometimes, light-skinned people carry the same sterotypes that whites carry about darkskinned people. Often, darkskinned Blacks assume that lightskinned Blacks intentionally do not care to identify as Black. All at some point or another, get concerned with, "How will my white friends feel about my association?"

Rarely do Blacks who do not know each other, encounter other Blacks with warmth and instantaneous friendship because of not wanting to make the appearance that we have kinship based on our skin color. If we do want to embrace the other, there is the fear of rejection and of not living up to the other's expectations of how to be a person of color. We are often intimidated by whites pressuring us not to gather together unless they are present. This is complicated by the existence of white spouses who are afraid of being excluded, power issues and white people who conveniently claim their one-half or their one-quarter Indian or Jewish heritage in order to come into our meetings. We must question and challenge this kind of control. The next time a white person says to a person of color, "WHY DO YOU HAVE TO MEET SEPARATELY?" or "...I DON'T SEE YOUR COLOR, WE ARE ALL ALIKE" or I WOULDN'T NOTICE IT IF YOU DIDN'T MAKE AN ISSUE OF IT" ask them WHY they are afraid for us to meet and remind them that we did not want or ask to be treated differently to begin with.

When we buy into denying our color, our heritage, to become more like those people who don't want to "notice" our color or our sexuality, we buy into more than simply denying who we are — we begin to accept their values, morals, and prejudices. The Black community remains in serious denial of a.i.d.s. as it continues to ignore gaylesbian Black people. The only way we can worship comfortably in their churches is to be "like" them by pretending that there are no differences. White people are in serious denial about the racism that does exist in our society and the only way, in some instances, that we can worship comfortably with them is if we don't rock the boat and deal with the sins of exclusivity.

I have met and talked with many people of color who are the "only one" in their congregations. I have observed the close and loving relationships that they have developed with the white people in their churches What disturbs me is that almost all are in denial about their skin color. I have met Hispanic/Latino(a) people who are darker than I, who still do not claim their heritage. I feel compassion for these people

COLORISM ... continued

because I know that someday they will have to deal face-to-face with someone who will challenge them on who they are racially and I fear that this will shatter them. It happens at unexpected and awkward times — in a hospital room with someone dying of a.i.d.s., whose family has just arrived — it is hard enought to deal with their new knowledge that their child is gay, but to have to deal with a person of color on top of that is sometimes devastating and urges people into extremely painful reactions.

Some white people are determined to convince us that it is wrong to claim our heritage or to do or say anything that will make it more obvious and many people of color are buying it. It is the same as the Black community's long-time belief that it is OK to be gay/lesbian as long as we don't act like it or talk about it.

When we wait too long to rock the boat or to claim all of who we are, we may find ourselves unable to accept or be sensitive to other people of color or we may find ourselves in an excruciatingly painful situation when we least expect it — will we then be able to understand why? "Who will be there for us?"

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## NEW NATIONAL GAY/LESBIAN MAGAZINE

The premiere issue of OUTLOOK, a new national magazine which provides a forum for in-depth exploration of lesbian and gay culture and politics, will be published in Fall 1987. This quarterly journal specializes in the best writing about the issues which affect lesbians and gay men as well as offering gay and lesbian perspectives on other timely subjects. OUTLOOK is calling for submissions of provocative writing on the significant issues facing the lesbian and gay communities today. They are looking for articles dealing with such topics as national lesbian and gay politics, racial and ethnic issues, the social impact of Aids, and the latest cultural developments. They are also looking for accessible scholarly writing, essays, fiction, opinion pieces, humor & satire, art, photography, interviews and book reviews. Potential contributors should send their work or a query to OUTLOOK, 18 Clipper Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

# AIDS in the Black Community

## A Statistical Overview

*(As of June 30, 1986)*

40% of the more than 21,300 U.S. cases of persons diagnosed with AIDS are People of Color.

25% of the U.S. AIDS cases are among Black men and women.

6.5% of AIDS cases among adults in the U.S. are women.

52% of women with AIDS in the U.S. are Black women.

81% of all pediatric cases of children with AIDS are People of Color.

60% of all pediatric cases of children with AIDS are Black children.

An estimated 10 to 20% of persons diagnosed with AIDS Related Complexes (ACR) or testing seropositive will develop AIDS

65% to 73% of the reported cases of AIDS are homosexual and bisexual men who are not IV drug users—of which 14% are Black; however,

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has expanded the definition of "drug and substance abuse" to include marijuana, cocaine, alcohol, poppers, as well as IV drugs. This new CDC classification, points out that 79% of persons diagnosed with AIDS are "drug abusers."

Most reported cases of AIDS among Blacks have been identified in urban cities on the east coast—New York, Newark, Miami, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and the District of Columbia.

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## AMAZING GRACE

by Rev. Lucia Chappelle

AMAZING GRACE! HOW SWEET TO SAY
THAT I HAVE BEEN SET FREE!
THAT I HAVE WALKED INTO THE FRAY
AND FACED IT EASILY.

WHEN JUSTICE LIKE A MIGHTY STREAM
FLOWS THRU A PEACEFUL LAND,
THE GRACE THAT KEPT ALIVE THE DREAM
WILL HAVE THE UPPER HAND!

TWAS GRACE THAT I RECEIVED THE CALL
AND GRACE MY FEARS RELIEVED
AND GRACE SOON SHOOK THE FORTRESS WALLS
BECAUSE WE WOULD NOT LEAVE.

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***AIDS Attacks The Body***
***Homophobia Attacks The Spirit***

***One Is Caused By A Virus***
***One Is Caused By Ignorance***

***A Virus Can Be Fought With Dollars***
***Ignorance Can Only Be Fought With Truth***

***AIDS Will Be Conquered***
***Ignorance Lingers On***

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

**INITIAL LICENSURE OF:**

Rev.-Elect Thomas Walker
MCC Long Beach, California

Rev.-Elect Hong Tan
MCC North London, England

## CREED

by DOROTHEE SOLLE, London, England

I believe in God who did not create a world
incapable of change
Who does not govern according to a natural order
of rich and poor, of the expert and the ignorant
of rulers and subjects.

I BELIEVE IN GOD WHO WILLED CONFLICT IN LIFE
**AND WANTED US TO CHANGE THE PRESENT STATE OF THINGS**
THROUGH OUR WORK, THROUGH OUR POLITICS.

I believe in Jesus Christ who rises again and again in our lives
So that we will be free from prejudice and arrogance,
from fear and from hate
And carry on his revolution
and make way for his Kingdom.

I BELIEVE IN THE SPIRIT THAT JESUS BROUGHT INTO THE WORLD.
I BELIEVE IN THE BROTHERHOOD AND SISTERHOOD OF ALL NATIONS.
**I BELIEVE IT IS UP TO US**
**WHAT OUR EARTH BECOMES**
A VALE OF TEARS, STARVATION AND TYRANNY
OR A CITY OF GOD
I BELIEVE IN A JUST PEACE
THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED
IN THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEANINGFUL LIFE
FOR ALL PEOPLE.
I BELIEVE THIS WORLD OF GOD HAS A FUTURE.

We have to talk over with you, God
What we will need for peace
We'll need a lot more friends
If we're going to make more peace
Friends from different classes
Friends from different churches
Friends with different interests, even if we don't like them.
**Friends who share a vision of peace and justice that can be achieved.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE PERSONS OF COLOR
BEING INTERVIEWED FOR ORDINATION:

Rev. Renee McCoy
Rev. Richard Materra
Rev. John Torres

ASK FOR A COPY OF THE MISSIOLOGY REPORT!
What is UFMCC's vision for MISSION work?

*THANK YOU AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE HELPED THE DEPARTMENT OF THIRD WORLD MINISTRIES WITH YOUR CARING, SHARING AND PRAYER!*

## DEPARTMENT OF THIRD WORLD MINISTRIES
## GENERAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
## HIGHLIGHTS

| | | |
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| Friday July 17, 1987 | 7:00 pm | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING |
| Saturday July 18, 1987 | 8:00 am | "MISSIOLOGY" WORKSHOP |
| | 2:00 pm | "Ecumenical" Workshop<br>by Rev. Ignatio Casteura |
| | 7:00 pm | **JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE**<br>Department of Ecumenical Witness and Ministry<br>Department of Third World Ministries |
| Monday July 20, 1987 | 10:-11:30 am | THIRD WORLD BUSINESS MEETING<br>WHITE PEOPLE HEALING RACISM MEETING |
| | 4:30 pm | PROGRAM AND BUDGET FORUM |
| Tuesday July 21, 1987 | 8:30 am | WORSHIP — Rev. La Paula Turner preaching |
| | 3:45 pm (approx.) | THIRD WORLD REPORT TO GENERAL CONFERENCE |
| Thursday July 23, 1987 | 10:00 am | AIDS MINISTRY IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES<br>by Rev. Carl Bean |
| | 1:00 pm | AIDS PLENARY |
| | 2:00 pm | "Self-Discovery" Workshop<br>by Rev. Renee McCoy |
| | | White People Healing Racism Meeting |
| | 4:-5:30 pm | THIRD WORLD LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP<br>By Rev. Sandi Robinson<br>RACISM AND SEXUALITY<br>By Rev. Karen Ziegler |

**WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATES AND PLACE OF THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LESBIAN AND GAY PEOPLE OF COLOR IN GREAT LAKES DISTRICT, 1988!!**